

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1-7. (cancelled)

8. (previously presented) An intraluminal catheter, comprising a catheter shaft having a proximal end, a distal end, a substantially transparent section having a substantially transparent wall which extends around the circumference of the shaft and which is formed of an extruded polymeric tubular member of polyetheretherketone polymeric material that is substantially transparent and substantially free of water marks and gels so that the substantially transparent tubular member has a percent transmittance of visible light of about 50% to about 100%, and a nontransparent section which is located distal to the substantially transparent shaft section and which is in communication with the substantially transparent shaft section.

9. (previously presented) The intraluminal catheter of Claim 8 wherein the substantially transparent shaft section has a wall thickness of about 0.05 mm to about 0.13 mm.

10. (previously presented) The intraluminal catheter of Claim 8 wherein the polyetheretherketone polymeric material of the substantially transparent shaft section is amorphous.

11. (canceled)

12. (previously presented) The intraluminal catheter of Claim 8 wherein the substantially transparent shaft section has a crystallinity of not greater than about 20%.

13. (previously presented) An intraluminal balloon catheter, comprising;
a) an elongated catheter shaft having a proximal end, a distal end, an inflation lumen, a substantially transparent proximal shaft section having a substantially transparent wall which extends around the circumference of the shaft and which is formed of an extruded polymeric material, and a nontransparent distal shaft section in communication with the substantially transparent proximal shaft section; and
b) an inflatable member on the distal section of the shaft, having a proximal end located distal to a distal end of the substantially transparent proximal shaft section, a distal end, and an interior in fluid communication with the inflation lumen.

14. (previously presented) The intraluminal catheter of Claim 13, wherein the substantially transparent shaft section is formed of a polymeric material selected from the group consisting of polyphenylene sulfide, polyether sulfone, and polyetheretherketone.

15. (previously presented) The intraluminal catheter of Claim 13, wherein the elongated shaft comprises:

a) an outer tubular member having a proximal section and a distal section, the proximal section having at least a portion which is substantially transparent around the circumference of the proximal section and which is formed of a polyetheretherketone polymeric material; and
b) an inner tubular member having a proximal section, a distal section, and a lumen, and being disposed within the outer tubular member and defining therewith the inflation lumen, so that a portion of the inner tubular member disposed within the outer tubular member transparent portion is visible through the outer tubular member.

16. (original) The intraluminal catheter of Claim 15 wherein the outer tubular member has a wall thickness of about 0.05 mm to about 0.13 mm.

17. (original) The intraluminal catheter of Claim 15 wherein the outer tubular member has an outer diameter of about 0.7 mm to about 1.3 mm.

18. (original) The intraluminal catheter of Claim 15 wherein the outer tubular member has an inner diameter of about 0.4 mm to about 1.2 mm.

19. (original) The intraluminal catheter of Claim 15 wherein the outer tubular member comprises a substantially transparent proximal shaft section formed of amorphous polyetheretherketone and a distal shaft section formed of a different polymeric material.

20. (original) The intraluminal catheter of Claim 19 wherein the amorphous transparent shaft section has a crystallinity of not greater than about 20%.

21. (original) The intraluminal catheter of Claim 19 wherein the amorphous transparent shaft section has a percent transmittance of visible light of from about 50% to about 100%.

22. (currently amended) A balloon catheter, comprising;
a) an elongated catheter shaft having a proximal end, a distal end, an outer tubular member defining an inflation lumen, and an inner tubular member disposed within at least a section of the inflation lumen and defining a guidewire lumen in communication with a guidewire distal port in the catheter distal end, the outer tubular member having at least a proximal section which is substantially transparent around the circumference of the outer tubular member and which is formed of an extruded polymeric

material selected from the group consisting of polyphenylene sulfide, polyether sulfone, and polyetheretherketone; and

b) a balloon on the shaft, having a proximal end, a distal end, and an interior in fluid communication with the inflation lumen.

23. (previously presented) The balloon catheter of claim 22 wherein the substantially transparent section of the outer tubular member is in fluid communication with a nontransparent section of the outer tubular member located distal to the substantially transparent section.

24. (previously presented) The balloon catheter of claim 23 wherein the balloon proximal end is located distal to a distal end of the substantially transparent section of the outer tubular member.

25. (previously presented) The balloon catheter of claim 23 wherein the nontransparent section of the outer tubular member is formed of a different polymeric material than the substantially transparent section of the outer tubular member.

26. (previously presented) The balloon catheter of claim 22 wherein the extruded polymeric material of the substantially transparent section of the outer tubular member is polyetheretherketone.